



1—View of Soissons, at the northern end of the allied offensive in the Aisne-Marne region. 2—Depth bombs on the Harvard, formerly a yacht, now an American patrol boat in European waters. 3—Victor Vandermerck, an American soldier who killed a German with the butt of his rifle in battle in France.

NEWS REVIEW OF THE GREAT WAR

General Foch Is Squeezing the Crown Prince's Army Out of Soissons-Reims Salient.

HUNS IN PERILOUS POSITION

American Troops Are Highly Praised for Their Fine Work—British in Flanders Take Meteren—Silly Exploit of U-Boat Off Cape Cod.

By EDWARD W. PICKARD.

"We've got 'em on the run" was the joyful cry of America as the news came in of the victorious progress of the allied troops in the Soissons-Reims salient.

In a measure this was true, for the Germans were being gradually squeezed out of the salient, and there was every reason for elation over the splendid fighting of the allies. But to halt the success as a great decisive victory was premature and foolish.

Such running as the Huns did was done only at the start of Foch's offensive, when they were taken by surprise. Their commanders quickly regained some measure of control, and thereafter the enforced retreat was conducted skilfully and slowly, every bit of ground being bitterly contested in order that as many guns and as much supplies as possible might be saved. Realizing that his entire army south of the Aisne was in grave danger, the crown prince sent in more and more of his reserves until 40 divisions were engaged, and desperate efforts were made to stabilize their lines of defense. However, nothing was allowed to stop the steady forward movement of the allies on three fronts of the salient, and the path of retreat was narrowed day by day. All of the territory yet held by the enemy was brought under the fire of the heavy guns, and the airmen in great numbers flew over the region day and night, working havoc with their bombs and machine guns.

At the beginning of the week there were highly successful operations on the west front of the salient. In both of which the Americans played an important part. At the tip of the German advance Chateau Thierry was taken by storm and a large section north and east of it was cleared of Huns. Here thousands of Germans were killed, other thousands captured, and great numbers of cannon and quantities of supplies were taken.

From this point northward to Soissons the Franco-Americans swept eastward until Neuilly St. Front was taken. Onchuy threatened, Soissons itself brought under gunfire and the very important railroad from there to Chateau Thierry crossed at so many places that it could no longer be used by the enemy. This drive, to be wholly successful, had to be carried to Fere-en-Tardenois, through which ran the only remaining railway which the Huns could rely upon to get their war supplies out of the way of Foch's pincers, and before the week closed the French and Yankees were moving steadily toward that town from the west and south. It must not be supposed that their progress was easy. The German counter-attacks repeatedly and fought brave and stubborn rear-guard battles. The village of Epieds, for instance, after being taken at the point of the bayonet by the Americans, was recaptured by the Huns, and again won by the Yankees, who then advanced their lines far beyond it.

Some of the fiercest fighting took place along the Marne east of Chateau Thierry. At first the Germans retreated across the river so hastily that the movement amounted almost to a rout. From the heights of Jaulgonne, Barzy and Passy, the American guns poured a deadly hail upon the fleeing foe, many of whom, throwing away their rifles, sought to swim the river, and were drowned.

When Foch was secretly preparing for his great strategic attack he called

a strong force of English and Scots troops down from the north, and they quietly slipped around south of the Marne toward Reims. At the appointed time these seasoned fighters hit the German lines southwest of the cathedral city a mighty blow. In the succeeding days, acting as the east arm of the pincers, they pushed forward into the salient from the Mountain of Reims toward Ville-en-Tardenois and Fismes. Their progress was slower than that of the Franco-Americans on the west, for the country in which they were fighting was much more difficult. East of Reims the French and Italian held their own and even made some advance, though the plan did not call for a drive by them.

When Foch's offensive was a week old it appeared probable that Ludendorff would attempt to make at least a temporary stand on the half-circle running from Soissons through the outskirts of Oulchy, below Fere-en-Tardenois and across toward the Mountain of Reims. Competent observers believed his troops were too disorganized to hold this line for long, and that he would be forced to fall back to the Vesle river, which runs almost due west from Reims, joining the Aisne near Soissons.

The main efforts of General von Boehm, the immediate commander of the Germans in the salient, were directed to keeping open the roads of retreat. He was given the assistance not only of most of the crown prince's reserves, but also of nine divisions from the army of Crown Prince Ruprecht of Bavaria. Already he was having great difficulty in feeding the men he had there, and the additions did little but stiffen his resistance and add to his commissary troubles.

At the time of writing, the full scope of General Foch's plans is not revealed. He has the initiative, and may elect to continue the offensive with all his strength in the effort to drive the Huns beyond the Aisne and as much farther as they can be forced; or he may find it prudent to hold them at the Vesle and await the arrival of more Americans. It is a noteworthy fact that 70 per cent of the allied troops engaged in the present battle are French. A considerable portion of the remainder are British and Italians. If so much can be done with so comparatively small a force of Americans taking part, ask observers, what will happen to the Huns when a million Americans are in the fighting line and another million at least waiting their turn for action? And this state of affairs will be reached by October, it is predicted.

Paris and London are loud in their praise of the quality and behavior of the Americans in the Aisne-Marne battle, and the newspapers there relate many instances of their bravery, coolness and determination. They are admittedly as fine troops as ever were seen, and even the least experienced of them have no idea of anything but winning every fight they go into. Their marksmanship, both with the rifle and with larger weapons, is remarkable; their doggedness is tempered with an unquenchable humor, and their stamina is such that at times bodies of them fought for many hours without food or drink, declining to halt their advance to let the commissary catch up with them. These splendid troops, with their gallant and competent officers, have done their full part in stopping the German offensive and converting it into an allied offensive, and if they are now called on to stop and await the arrival of more of their countrymen, America should rest satisfied, patient and proud. The American casualty lists will be longer and longer each day for a time, but the bereaved ones may well take example by the proud, unwept grief with which Colonel Roosevelt received the news of the death of his gallant son, Quentin.

In Flanders the British carried out an important operation that resulted in the capture of Meteren. They have been devoting themselves to preparing for the new offensive which, according to the logic of the situation, Ludendorff must undertake and which, according to military experts, probably will be directed against some part of the line held by the British. Such an offensive would be largely to influence public opinion in Germany and direct

attention away from the crown prince's disastrous attempt on the Marne.

General Foch has not had to call into action the bulk of his reserves. In the midst of the biggest battle he found time to order a swift and fierce attack by the French along the Aisne in the Montdidier sector. The positions aimed at were feebly held by tired troops that did not expect an attack, and the objectives were gained within a few hours, large numbers of prisoners being taken.

Rome received the information from some source that the Austrians were preparing a triple offensive against Italy. This, according to the story, is to consist of a great land attack on the Piave river line, a naval attack on Italy's Adriatic coast and an extensive counter-attack in Albania. The Italian commanders have no doubt of their ability to repulse any or all of these attacks. In Albania their forces, with the French, have kept moving forward and are now in very strong positions. The threat of a serious naval operation by Austria seems most foolish of all.

President Wilson completed his pronouncement of plans for the participation of the United States in the Russian expedition and was awaiting only the reply of Japan to the American proposals. It had been thought Japan had agreed to these, but dispatches from Tokyo told of an exciting controversy over them, two influential groups strongly opposing intervention. Moscow advised said general mobilization of the Russian army—meaning the bolshevik—had begun, but this did not worry the allied statesmen. The plans of the British, Americans and French for the protection of the Murman region against the Germans and Finns are believed to be all settled. The people will be fed and their internal affairs will not be interfered with by the expedition that will be sent.

General Horvath, provisional ruler of Siberia, is co-operating with the Czech-Slovaks, and matters look more promising in that country.

Conditions in the Ukraine grow more unsettled daily, and now the Germans and Austrians are called on to face a great uprising in Roumania, where the people are disgusted with the peace with the central powers and with the treatment they are receiving. Probably half a million Teutonic troops are tied up in these two countries, which helps some.

The Atlantic seaboard was amazed rather than alarmed by the sudden appearance of a large German submarine close to Cape Cod. The vessel attacked a tug and sank the three stone-laden barges it was towing, using up two torpedoes and a lot of ammunition in this footless operation. Other U-boats bagged bigger game when they sank the British transport Justitia, 32,284 gross tons, off the Irish coast. The transport, which was westward bound after carrying 10,000 American soldiers to Europe, was attacked by a fleet of six or eight submarines and fought them for ten hours. Of her crew of some 600 only ten were killed.

So foolish as scarcely to merit mention is the latest list of German peace terms, which it is said will be offered through Spain. They disown any desire for annexations or indemnities on the west front, but would leave Belgium, the Balkans and the self-determination of peoples for the peace conference to settle; the peace treaties with Roumania and Russia not to be questioned, and all Germany's colonies to be restored. Also the seas are to be free and Gibraltar and the Suez canal defenses dismantled.

The British government is having trouble with the pacifists, who have permeated all the war material factories, and last week caused strikes of thousands of munition workers. The cabinet decided, it was reported, that if the strike continued the strikers of military age would be drafted immediately into the army.

Finally authentic word of the death of the former czar came out of Russia. He was ordered shot by a local bolshevik official because of counter-revolutionary plots, and his son is said to have died of exposure a few days later.

BRINGING UP "GRANDMOTHER" TO POUND THE HUNS

Copyright, Western Newspaper Union Photo Service.

A steam caterpillar, which is used to move the heavy pieces, brings up a camouflaged "grandmother" to assist in checking the advance of the Huns.

"OUR BOYS" SMILE AS THEY GO INTO BATTLE

Spirit of American Soldiers in France Described by Red Cross Worker.

CHEERFUL AND CONFIDENT

Each Believes If He Doesn't Get into Action on Time Fight Will Be Lost—What American Women Are Doing.

South Bend, Ind.—Kathryn Carlisle, daughter of Charles A. Carlisle of this city, has been in France for a long time doing Red Cross work.

She has written a most interesting and thrilling letter to her parents, a letter that should stimulate Red Cross work throughout the world and give to our soldiers in the trenches, on the firing lines and in camp, their mothers, sisters, sweethearts and friends at home fresh hope and assurance that the American women are doing magnificent work in their behalf.

Here is what Miss Kathryn says: I wish everyone at home, particularly the loved ones of our fighting men, could see "our boys" as they go into battle. It's the proudest moment of life and the grandest. Oh! how brave and splendid they are, with a smile on their lips. "Good-by." "We will see you soon again."

We feed from four to five thousand some days. Our canteen is always crowded.

Of course that compliment is our greatest reward. We all try and want to do for "our boys" the very best. They come and go at all hours of the day and night. Our Red Cross canteen is never closed. All of "our boys" on this line of communication stop and rest and have their meals and refreshments at this Red Cross canteen.

Want to Push on.

We always know, among the very first, when a big drive is on, and then we never seem to sleep. Nobody wants to. "Our boys" don't even care to stop long and rest; they want to push on. Everyone of these blessed men feel that if he fails to get there on time and at the very second when called into action the fight will be lost, and it will.

Here is a toast one of our brave officers left with us. It expresses the attitude of "our boys" to us perhaps better than any word of mine:

"To our women, who sent us forth with courage in their hearts and tears in their eyes.

"To our women at home who are sacrificing all that we may win.

"To our women over here who give their own lives that we may live.

"God bless them, and damn the man that does not respect them and the coward that does not protect them."

"Our boys" mean every word expressed, and no woman was ever more thoughtfully considered and protected than we of the American Red Cross who serve "our boys" at the front.

FINDS LATEST VARIETY OF CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTOR

Chicago.—Chicago has produced the latest variety of "conscientious objector," and, as a result, John Taylor probably will not serve Uncle Sam overseas. John, who had been called for service, walked into a courtroom here and confessed to embezzling more than \$5,000 from his employer during the last two years. He said he objected to going to the army with a black mark against him—so he confessed. He was held for the grand jury.

San on Baseball Pools.

Albany, N. Y.—The operation of baseball pools, prevalent throughout the country, has been held to be book-making by the appellate division of the supreme court, third department of New York state.

PATRIOTIC GREEK MAKES READY TO FIGHT BOCHES

Spokane, Wash.—James I. Dorgan, a subject of Greece, is in a training camp preparing to fight for Uncle Sam against the Germans. Four years ago he came here from Athens with only a slight knowledge of the English language. In these four years he was graduated from the public schools and the high school. While attending school he worked in a newspaper office and accumulated \$600. He also owns a Liberty bond and bought War Savings stamps.

BLUE GOWNS ARE BUSY

Restoring Maimed Soldiers to Trades, Their Job.

"Reconstruction Aide" Coax Wasted Muscles Back to Their Normal State.

Washington.—Teachers, nurses and healers too, are the "Blue Gowns" of the army medical corps, at work now in the hospitals of the United States and "over there."

Reconstruction aids is their official name, but the cheery hue of their distinctive uniform already has won a handier name for the special corps of seventy women whose membership treats and teaches among the maimed soldiers brought back from the battle front. Theirs is the work of coaxing back the wasted muscles and disused limbs of wounded men, and later by patient tutoring instilling deftness in new arts and vocations which the hospital schools are planning for the returned soldier.

Most of the "Blue Gowns" were recruited from the instruction staffs of manual training schools and civilian hospitals.

"Beside a table a young fellow is uniform was carving a conventional flower border on a wooden picture frame," says an official description of their work. "The design was his own and the work was his first piece. He was inclined to be clumsy because he was using his left hand. A 'Blue Gown' was ready to guide and advise him. As he becomes adept in left-handed carving he is preparing for the time when he again will begin to draft, this time with his left hand. This mental concentration upon a new task is believed by doctors and psychologists to be a valuable antidote for discouragement."

"At the same open-air workshop one man was knitting a scarf. One group of men, temporarily crippled, were carving designs upon wooden blocks, and several were learning to weave upon hand looms."

In the treatment rooms inside the "Blue Gowns" were guiding electrical appliances and administering the complicated series of treatments that perfect the restoration work started by the surgeon at the front.

NEUTRAL SAILORS EAT SEAWEED

Victims of Hun Submarine Drift Eleven Days.

Crew of Norwegian Vessel Picked Up in Mid-ocean in Pitiful Condition.

An Atlantic Port.—The Norwegian steamer Augvald, 2,093 tons, bound from a French port for Baltimore, has fallen a victim to a German submarine. A transatlantic liner brought the news of the sinking of the Augvald in mid-ocean and also landed 11 members of the crew of 27 men. Three of the crew were drowned and the remaining 18 are unaccounted for.

The rescued men were picked up by the liner after having drifted helplessly for 11 days, subsisting most of that time on seaweed and rainwater wrung from their clothing or caught in their caps.

According to the crew the steamer

was stopped by shell fire, the crew ordered into two boats and the ship was sunk with bombs.

Captain Edge of the Augvald left the ship with 12 men in his boat and it became separated from the other lifeboat containing 14 of the crew. For two days the latter boat drifted about and was then upset in a storm. Three of the men were swept away and the others managed to right the boat and bale it out. They lost all their food and fresh water and even their caps were gone.

Drifting helplessly, the men began to suffer for want of food and water. Seaweed was eagerly snatched up and chewed and every device they could think of was resorted to to catch rainwater. There was a succession of rainstorms and the men were almost continually drenched. Day after day went by and finally the rescue ship came over the horizon and the exhausted and starving men were soon safely on the deck of the liner.